



GAIL FARBER, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: EP-0

May 20, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Gail Farber *Gail Farber*  
Director of Public Works

### **NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO APPROVE A CONTINGENCY EXCEEDING 10 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT**

This is to advise the Board that the Department of Public Works is scheduling a Board letter for the June 4, 2013, agenda that recommends awarding a consultant services agreement to Tetra Tech BAS in an amount not to exceed \$3,069,300.00 for the planning, environmental, engineering, project management, public outreach, and technical assistance services for the draft Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element document. The Board letter also recommends delegating authority to the Director of Public Works or her designee to expend an additional 15 percent of the contract sum for any unforeseen, additional work within the scope of work of the contract, if required.

In accordance with Board of Supervisors' Policy 5.120, prior Board notice is required for any department requesting a percentage increase exceeding 10 percent of the total contract amount.

### **Background**

The California Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) requires each County to prepare a Countywide Siting Element that describes how the County and the cities within the County plan to manage the disposal of their solid waste for a 15-year planning period. The Siting Element analyzes future disposal needs; describes capacities available at both in- and out-of-County disposal facilities, such as landfills and waste-to-energy facilities; and identifies potential landfill expansions and conversion technology sites. To provide a framework for managing solid waste in the region, the Siting Element also establishes various goals and policies on issues such as source reduction and recycling, alternative-to-landfill technologies, and conserving and securing landfill capacities.

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The existing Siting Element dated 1997 was approved in 1998 by a majority of the cities containing a majority of the incorporated population in the County; the County Board of Supervisors; and the California Integrated Waste Management Board, which is now the Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery (CalRecycle). Public Works completed the preparation of the Siting Element in November 2012. The consultant services will be utilized to prepare the California Environmental Quality Act documents, conduct public outreach, publication and dissemination, and provide other support services related to the Siting Element document.

### **Justification**

Approval of delegated authority to expend an additional 15 percent of the contract sum for any unforeseen, additional work within the scope of work of the contract, if required, will ensure this State-mandated Siting Element document is completed in a thorough and timely manner. The Siting Element is a highly technical and comprehensive document which along with its environmental document will be released for review and comment by a wide range of stakeholders, including cities, the solid waste industry, environmental groups, regulatory agencies, and the general public. Given the wide range of comments anticipated, additional focused analyses may need to be conducted based on feedback received so that all concerns are fully addressed in the documents. Furthermore, it is essential that topics, such as the removal of potential landfill sites, identification of potential conversion technology sites, and other critical solid waste management issues contained in the Siting Element document be effectively communicated to the public through the assistance of professional public outreach services. Based on feedback received from the public, it may also be necessary to expand outreach services, including conducting additional community meetings, in order to fully address concerns expressed by the public.

### **Notification Timeline**

Consistent with the procedures of Board Policy 5.120, we are informing the Board of our intention to proceed with the filing of the Board letter with the Executive Office of the Board for the June 4, 2013, Board meeting.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Pat Proano, of our Environmental Programs Division, at (626) 458-3500 or [pproano@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:pproano@dpw.lacounty.gov).

PH:td

P:\epubl\Secfinal\EP-5 Landfills\CSE BL Justification for 15 Percent Contingency

cc: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)  
County Counsel  
Executive Office